STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Sharon Hayes, USEPA Superfund Support Section Region I

FROM: Clayton Maybee, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, BOHMC

DATE: December 11, 1990

RE: Preliminary Assessment
Burt Company
1 Cambridge Street, Portland
Cumberland County, Maine 04103
CERCLIS Number: MED985468024

INTRODUCTION

The Burt Company site in Portland, Maine was brought to the attention of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, (DEP), on March 5, 1990, when drums of chemicals were discovered following a fire at that location in early March of 1990. A site visit was made by the Bureau of Oil and Hazardous Materials Control (BOHMC) Response Services of the State of Maine DEP and the site was placed on CERCLIS on June 25, 1990. A preliminary site assessment was conducted by the division of Site Investigation and Remediation on September 20, 1990.

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

Identification Information

The Burt Company site is owned by Norman Reef of 66 Pearl Street, Portland Maine. The site is located on 1 Cambridge Street, Portland, Maine, and is denoted as lot No. 13A, of tax map 151A, for Portland. Figure 1 shows the location of Burt Company on the tax map.

Property Description

The Burt Company site is located in a mixed use industrial and residential area of Portland in Cumberland County, Maine. The lot is over three acres in size, bordered by

lots 11 and 21 to the North, lot 15 to the West, lot 16 to the South, and lot 12 to the West. These lots are industrial with the exception of lot 11 which is residential. The population of Portland is 62,000 and the population of surrounding Cumberland County is 243,000. (MEDHR, 1989 census, phone communication). Figure 2 is a topographic map showing land within a one mile radius of the site

The site is easily accessed on the North by Cambridge Street. At the time of initial DEP investigation the facility was partially surrounded by a fence, but there was no gate at the main entrance and the fence did not exclude access. A gate was installed by Norman Reef under Departmental Order, (letter to Norman Reef from Steve Eufemia, April 17, 1990), at the Cambridge Street entrance to restrict access but has since been removed. There are three buildings on the site, a storage garage, an office building, and an operations building. The operations building was damaged by fire and appears to be structurally unsound. Milliken Brook flows on the southern perimeter of the property and a smaller feeder stream flows through the property. (figure 3).

Facility Activity/History

The Burt Company site is at the location of the former Burt Company. Burt Company, an assumed name for the Brothers Corporation, was a manufacturer of plastic billiard balls and poker chips. Burt Company was owned by Douglas Burt and incorporated in April 1985. Burt Company was sold to John Kendall of Chipco International in July of 1985. The Burt Company ceased operations in September of 1988 and its assets were seized by the bank in December of 1988. The Burt Company site was seized by the U. S. Internal Revenue Service on July 26, 1989. Following that date, Norman Reef acquired the property. A fire destroyed the operations building in December of 1989. Bekar Industries, an asbestos abatement contractor, rented the office building for an unknown period of time before the fire. People's Heritage Bank and Sun Savings Bank have threatened to foreclose on the property.

A second fire, involving a drum of Tech Sol solvent, was set by vandals in March of 1990. The DEP was then notified of the presence of potentially toxic substances by the Portland City Fire Department. An investigation was made by the State of Maine DEP on March 22, 1990. (Hodgkins, MDEP, Visit to Burt Company, March 26,1990).

At the storage building, vandalism following the first fire resulted in lead monosilicate and dye material being spread on the snow. DEP observers noted that children and dogs had tracked dyes through the snow on the site. Street people

were reported living in the abandoned buildings and children had been collecting billiard balls which were coated with dye. The area where dyes and lead monosilicate were spilled was covered with plastic sheeting by the DEP and later contained. Other bags of lead monosilicate were torn by vandals and contents were scattered widely throughout the site. Laboratory analyses of the soils containing the spilled dyes indicated Barium at 3600 ppm EP Toxicity. The analyses also indicated lead at 7700 ppm EP Toxic in the soils where lead monosilicate was spilled. Table 1 shows laboratory analyses of the soils containing dyes and lead monosilicate.

In the burned operations building of the facility, resinous substances were found in pools on the floor. Drums of unknown substances were stored on the site. Most of these drums appeared in good condition although some had been compromised accounting for a potential source of the spilled dyes. Some of the drums were marked and contents included the brand name 'Mogal', Urea Molding Compound, and some marked "alkaline materials". Barrels of polystyrene (Co-Pel) pellets, that had been dyed different colors, were found overturned. There where numerous small containers of household chemicals also found at this site.

After the current owner failed to initiate a removal at the site, the DEP BOHMC Response Services initiated removal operations from May 23, 1990 to June 7, 1990. An area where soil appeared stained was sampled for organics on May 23, 1990. Results were negative except for o & p dichlorobenzene levels of 211 ug/kg. Laboratory analyses of the stained soil area is shown in Table 1. Dyes, lead monosilicate, plastics, and contaminated materials were placed in drums at the site. Additionally 20 cubic yards of soil contaminated with dyes and lead monosilicate was piled on the site. Further removal is planned in the basement of the burned operations building. 180 overpacked drums are on site awaiting disposal. Appendix A is an inventory of the contents of the drums. Further cleanup of the operations building is expected to produce 15 additional drums. The owner has been ordered by DEP to properly dispose of these Hazardous Wastes. (DEP-BOHMC Enforcement letter, September 17, 1990) As of December 7, 1990, there has been no response to the DEP order. A post removal soil sample collected in front of the storage building where dye and lead monosilicate had been removed was above background for lead (190 ppm) and barium (3400). (table 1).

Asbestos had been abandoned in an open dumpster on the site. The asbestos was reported by the DEP-BOHMC to the DEP-Bureau of Solid Waste and has been removed.

Buried material was noted in an area by the stream during a site visit by the MDEP on September 20, 1990 . Erosion has

exposed plastics and other debris in filled areas. Evidence of several filled areas can be seen on the site. In addition demolition debris from the fire has been placed on the stream bank.

WATER USE

Water Supplies

The heavily populated area in the vicinity of the site, including Falmouth and Pleasant Hill, is served by the Portland municipal water supply. The Portland water supply comes from Sebago Lake 13 miles from the site. The extent of private well use is not known. (Portland City Water District, telephone communication, September 1990).

Surface Water

A small feeder stream flows to the East through the site and connects with Milliken Brook on the southern perimeter of the property. (figure 3). Milliken Brook is a tributary of Fall Brook which flows into Back Cove approximately one mile to the south. Back Cove is part of the tidal waters of the Casco Bay system.

CONCLUSIONS

The facility is located in a mixed use commercial and residential area serviced by municipal water supply. Site access is unrestricted and children come into contact with hazardous substances including high concentrations of barium, chromium, and lead. There are drums of both known and unknown substances present and there have been spills of chemicals including but not limited to lead monosilicate and dyes. Unknown and potentially hazardous material is present in the burned building. Plastics have been found in filled areas indicating a potential practice of burying hazardous substances on site. The present owner is reluctant in cooperating with the DEP in site cleanup activities.

RECOMMENDATION

The Maine DEP recommends a High Priority Screening Site Inspection due to following:

1) Known presence of heavy metals including Barium and Lead in excess of State and Federal standards and

2) potential for Chromium, and other heavy metals elsewhere on the property.

3) Other unknown and potentially hazardous chemicals stored, spilled, and potentially disposed of on the property.

4) Potential hazardous chemicals generated by fire at the site of the burned building.

5) Area of high population density and unrestricted access with evidence of frequent human contact.

6) Proximity to sensitive waters of the Casco Bay region.

REFERENCES

Analytics Environmental Laboratory Inc., Laboratory Results, May 25, 1990

DeLorme Mapping Company, Twelfth Edition, 1987

Eufemia, S.J. State of Maine DEP, Letter to Norman Reef, April 17, 1990.

Hodgkins, N.J., State of Maine DEP, Memorandum RE: Visit to Burt Company, in Portland, March 26, 1990.

Hodgkins, N.J., State of Maine DEP, Potential Hazardous Waste Site-Site Identification, June 13, 1990.

LRS Enviro Services, Inc., Laboratory Results, June 11, 1990

LRS Enviro Services, Inc., Job sheets including inventory of overpacked drums., May 23, 1990

Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Laboratory Results, April 19, 1990.

Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Laboratory Results, September 29, 1990.

Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Letter to Norman Reef, September 17, 1990

Maine Department of Human Resources, 1989 Census Information, (Phone Communication, November 1990).

Portland City Water District, telephone communication, September 1990)

Table 1

DEP Laboratory Analyses of Spilled Materials

Sample	Parameter	Conc.	Units
Sample 1 soil with dyes 3/27/90	Silver by flame	1.9	mg/kg
	Arsenic by furnace	15	mg/kg
	Cadmium by flame	4200	mg/kg
	Chromium by flame	46000	mg/kg
	Mercury by vapor	.30	mg/kg
	Nickel by flame	35	mg/kg
	Lead	92	mg/kg
	Selenium by flame	< 15	mg/kg
	Barium by flame	92000	mg/kg
	Barium EP Toxic	3600	ppm
	Cadmium EP toxic	.47	ppm
	Chromium EP toxic	.02	ppm
Sample 2 soil with lead 3/27/90	Lead EP toxic	7700	ppm
Sample 3 stained soil 5/30/90	o & p Dichlorobenzene	211	ug/kg
Sample 4 post removal soil 9/20/90	Silver by furnace	.02	mg/kg
	Arsenic by furnace	3	mg/kg
	Cadmium by furnace	27	mg/kg
	Chromium by flame	9.35	mg/kg
	Mercury by vapor	< .15	mg/kg
	Lead	190	mg/kg
	Selenium by flame	< 2	mg/kg
	Barium by flame	3400	mg/kg
	Barium EP Toxic	1.9	ppm
	Lead EP toxic	.20	ppm

Figure 1. Location of the Burt Company on the Portland City Tax Map

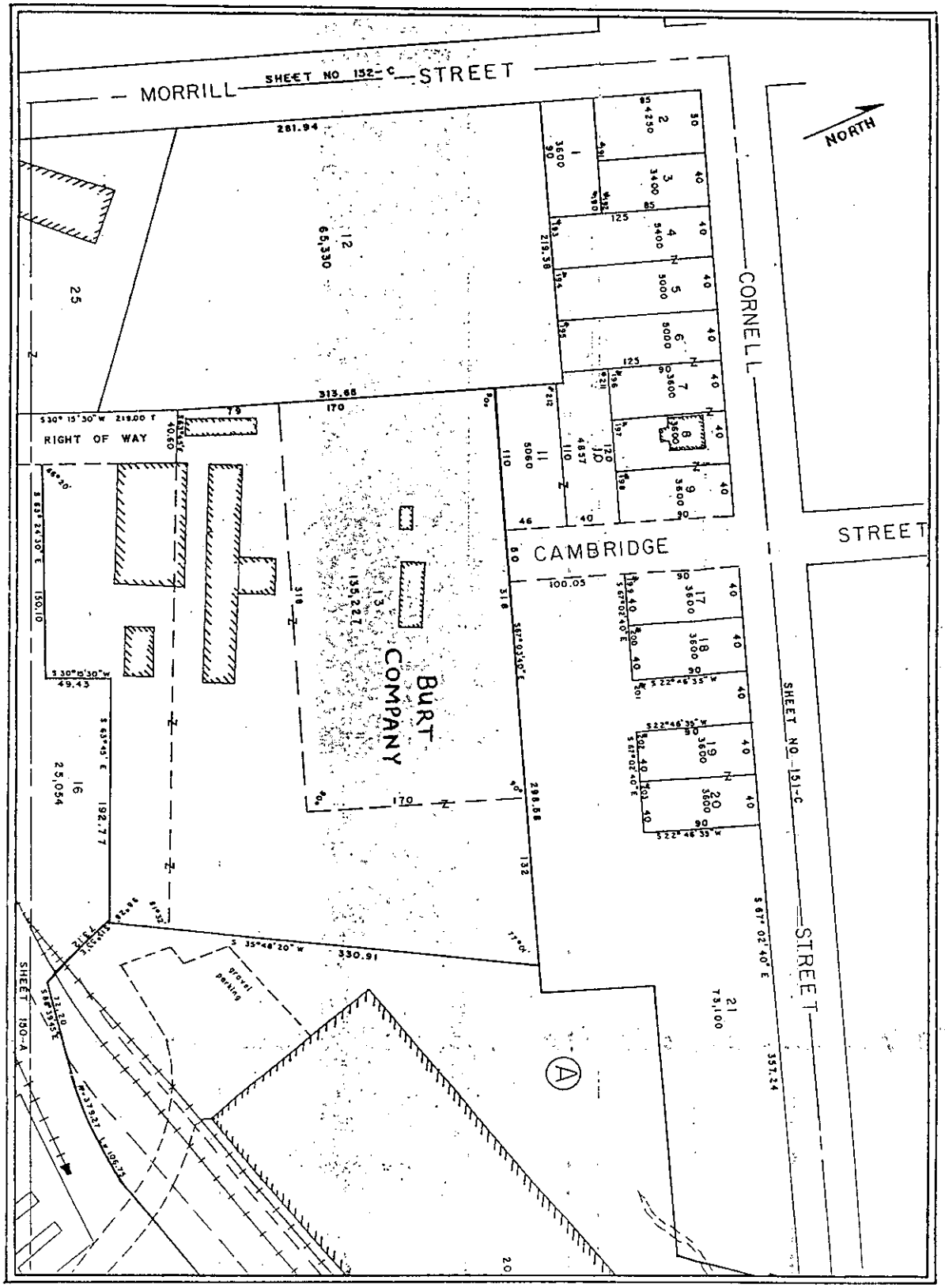
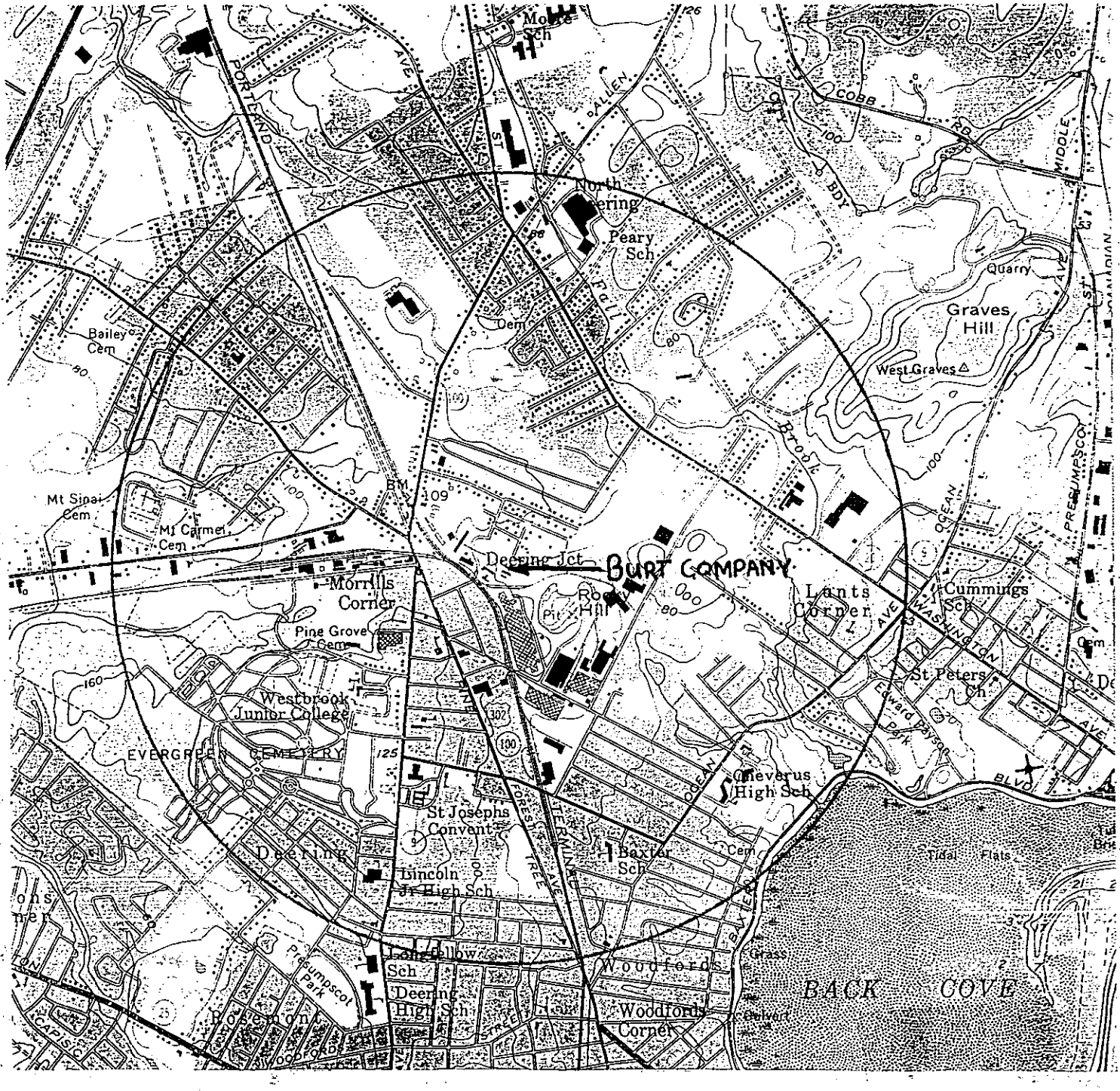
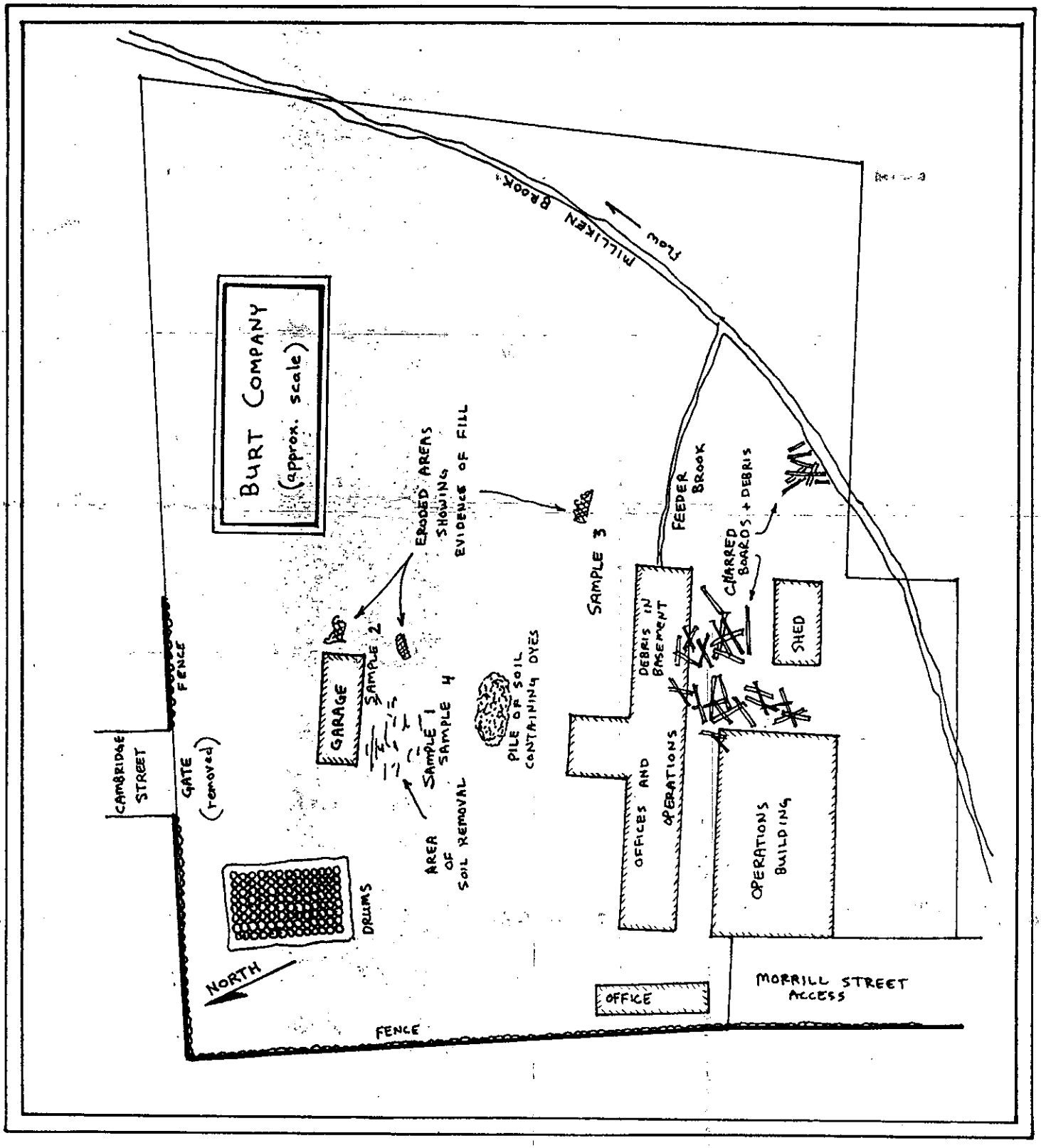


Figure 2. Topographic Map Showing One Mile Radius From The Burt Company



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 8.9 FEET

Figure 3. Burt Company Site Map



APPENDIX A

Contents of Overpacked Drums

OVERPACK DRUMS (listed by number)

O.P.-1	cardboard & wood from poolball shed
O.P.-2	cardboard from poolball shed
O.P.-3	cardboard from poolball shed
O.P.-4	cardboard & wood from poolball shed
O.P.-5	cardboard from poolball shed
O.P.-6	cardboard from poolball shed
O.P.-7	poolballs
O.P.-8	poolballs
O.P.-9	poolballs
O.P.-10	poolballs
O.P.-11	poolballs
O.P.-12	poolballs
O.P.-13	poolballs
O.P.-14	poolballs
O.P.-15	poolballs
O.P.-16	poolballs
O.P.-17	poolballs
O.P.-18	poolballs
O.P.-19	poolballs
O.P.-20	poolballs
O.P.-21	poolballs
O.P.-22	poolballs
O.P.-23	poolballs
O.P.-24	poolballs
O.P.-25	poolballs
O.P.-26	poolballs
O.P.-27	poolballs
O.P.-28	poolballs, plastic & floor sweepings from shed
O.P.-29	35-gal drum of pool ball trimmings (125 lbs.)
O.P.-30	55-gal drum of trimmings (200 lbs.)
O.P.-31	55-gal drum of trimmings (200 lbs.)
O.P.-32	35-gal drum (liquid) Mogul Corp., Chagrin Falls, OH (100 lbs.)
O.P.-33	35-gal drum (liquid) Mogul Corp., Chagrin Falls, OH (100 lbs.)
O.P.-34	35-gal drum (liquid) Mogul Corp., Chagrin Falls, OH (100 lbs.)
O.P.-35	35-gal drum (liquid) Mogul Corp., Chagrin Falls, OH (100 lbs.)
O.P.-36	25, 10, 5 gal drums, 50 lb. bag, Imperial Colors Pigment and Toner (100 lbs.)
O.P.-37	10 lbs. Ferro Colors, Cleveland, OH (6 empty buckets) (50 lbs.)
O.P.-38	Five 100-lb. bags, Chemtron Corp. Pigment Division, Holland, MI (500 lbs.)
O.P.-39	35-gal drum Plaskon, Toledo, OH (50 lbs.)
O.P.-40	Two 35-gal drums DayGlo Pigment, Cleveland, OH (50 lbs.)
O.P.-41	25 & 30-gal drums of pigment color, Sagamore Color & Chemical Co., Boston, MA
O.P.-42	55-gal drum Tecsol
O.P.-43	35-gal drum Cadmium Yellow, General Color Co., Newark, NJ (50 lbs.)

OVERPACK DRUMS (listed by number)

O.P.-44	35-gal drum Green #5, Shepard Chemical Co., Cincinnati, OH (50 lbs.) 5 lbs. Argyle Green, Paul Uhlich & Co., New York, NY 10 lbs. Heliogen Green toner, General Aniline & Film Corporation, New York, NY 10 lbs. Imperial Pigment Colors, Glens Falls, NY 5 lbs. Resin Orange, National Aniline Division, New York, NY 5 lbs. Blue, Claremont PolyChemical Corp., NY 15 lbs. C-10 Tungsten Powder, Li Tungsten Corp., NY 10 lbs. Brass Powder, New Jersey Zinc Co.
O.P.-45	3 containers of dye, blue, orange and maroon, no names (150 lbs.)
O.P.-46	2 bags LeHigh Leaded Zinc Oxide, New Jersey Zinc Co. 1 bucket powdered lead (no name) (280 lbs.)
O.P.-47	25-gal drum Billard Ball Scarlet, H. Kohnstamm & Co., New York, Chicago 1 bag regular shellac (50 lbs.)
O.P.-48	35-gal drum dye, billard balls & cutouts (150 lbs.)
O.P.-49	Plastic, dye & billard balls (150 lbs.)
O.P.-50	DayGlo Blue, 35-gal drum F.F. Wood Rosin
O.P.-51	P. Silica bags
O.P.-52	P. Silica bags
O.P.-53	P. Silica bags
O.P.-54	P. Silica bags
O.P.-55	P. Silica bags
O.P.-56	P. Silica bags
O.P.-57	P. Silica bags
O.P.-58	P. Silica bags
O.P.-59	P. Silica bags
O.P.-60	P. Silica bags
O.P.-61	P. Silica bags
O.P.-62	P. Silica bags
O.P.-63	P. Silica bags
O.P.-64	P. Silica bags
O.P.-65	B.A. 29, 8 bags
O.P.-66	Calcium Chloride
O.P.-67	Plastic, floor sweepings & cardboard
O.P.-68	Wood from floor
O.P.-69	Wood from floor
O.P.-70	Wood from floor
O.P.-71	Wood from floor
O.P.-72	Wood from floor
O.P.-73	Wood from floor
O.P.-74	Wood from floor
O.P.-75	Wood from floor
O.P.-76	Solka Floc
O.P.-77	Solka Floc
O.P.-78	Solka Floc
O.P.-79	Solka Floc
O.P.-80	Solka Floc
O.P.-81	Solka Floc
O.P.-82	Solka Floc
O.P.-83	Solka Floc
O.P.-84	Solka Floc
O.P.-85	Solka Floc
O.P.-86	Solka Floc

OVERPACK DRUMS (listed by number)

O.P.-87	Solka Floc
O.P.-88	Solka Floc
O.P.-89	150-lb. bag MicroFibres, Inc.
O.P.-90	MicroFibres, Inc.
O.P.-91	MicroFibres, Inc.
O.P.-92	MicroFibres, Inc.
O.P.-93	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-94	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-95	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-96	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-97	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-98	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-99	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-100	Florence Green, Seal 8, Zinc Oxide (lead free)
O.P.-101	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-102	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-103	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-104	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-105	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-106	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-107	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-108	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-109	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-110	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-111	Ground Lead Monosilicate
O.P.-112	Floor Sweepings
O.P.-113	Wood from floor and 1/2 barrel of dye
O.P.-114	Wood from floor
O.P.-115	Wood from floor
O.P.-116	Wood from floor
O.P.-117	Wood from floor
O.P.-118	Wood from floor
O.P.-119	Plastic cardboard, poolballs with lead dust
O.P.-120	150-bag MicroFibres & cardboard with lead dust
O.P.-121	Wood from floor
O.P.-122	Wood from floor
O.P.-123	Wood & floor sweepings
O.P.-124	Floor sweepings
O.P.-125	35-gal drum blue dye
O.P.-126	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-127	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-128	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-129	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-130	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-131	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-132	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-133	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-134	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-135	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-136	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-137	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-138	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-139	Plastic cutouts with lead dust
O.P.-140	Plastic cutouts with lead dust

OVERPACK DRUMS (listed by number)

O.P.-141	Enamel Plus, screen process ink, barium sulfate NJZ New Jersey Zinc Company PDI Edison, NJ MW200 Pfizer, New York, NY
O.P.-142	Tyvek, gloves, etc.
O.P.-143	20-gal drum of oil
O.P.-144	20-gal drum of oil
O.P.-145	35-gal drum of alkaline material, Mogul Corp.
O.P.-146	35-gal drum of alkaline material, Chagrin Falls, OH
O.P.-147	20-gal drum of oil
O.P.-148	15-gal bucket PDI, five 1-gal cans PDI various colors, nine 1-gal cans of paint, one 1-qt can of paint thinner, one 5-lb. can Sta-Roc cement paint, one 1-gal can Minerallac pull-in compound, twelve 1-qt. cans screen process ink various colors, three 1-qt cans paint, one 1-qt. can furniture polish, one 5-lb. can white lead, two 1 qt. cans John-Mansville #20 plastic refractory cement and for resetting fire brick, one 1-gal can roof cement, one 5-gal can roof cement
O.P.-149	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-150	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-151	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-152	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-153	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-154	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-155	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-156	Ground plastic chips and floor sweepings
O.P.-157	Floor sweepings and poolballs
O.P.-158	35-gal drum ChemTreat on-line cleaner (sample 1)
O.P.-159	35-gal drum AquaTreat (sample 2)
O.P.-160	25-gal drum unknown liquid (sample 3)
O.P.-161	One 5-gal bucket unknown liquid (sample 4) One 5-gal bucket unknown liquid (sample 5)
O.P.-162	35-gal drum ground plastic chips and floor sweepings 10-gal drum purple dye (no name)
O.P.-163	20-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-164	35-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-165	35-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-166	35-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-167	40-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-168	35-gal drum ground plastic chips & floor sweepings
O.P.-169	35-gal drum ground plastic chips, floor sweepings & fiberglass resin mixed in
O.P.-170	35-gal drum ground plastic chips, floor sweepings
O.P.-171	25-gal drum ground plastic chips, floor sweepings, one 40-lb. bag zinc sterate
O.P.-172	40-gal drum ground plastic chips, floor sweepings (looks like oil mixed with it)
O.P.-173	Three 5-gal buckets of fiberglass resin, one 1-gal fiberglass resin, two 5-gal buckets resin solution

OVERPACK DRUMS (listed by number)

O.P.-174	One 5-gal bucket BYK (A501) Chemie Wallingford, CT, floor sweepings, 1-pt. bottle chloride G #1330, 1-pt. bottle chloride #1322, 1-pt. bottle alkalinity E #1320, one 1/2-pt. alkalinity E #1320, one-2 oz. bottle chloride F #1326, one-2 oz. bottle alkalinity D #1319, one-2 oz. bottle alkalinity C #1319, one 2-oz. bottle pH indicator A #1317, one 1/2 oz. bottle alkalinity E, one 4 oz. bottle TeraPrint Orange ZR liquid, one 4 oz. bottle Tera Print Black 300 Re-liquid, one 5-gal bucket of cutting fluid emulsion, one 1-gal bucket cutting oil 401, three 1-gal can oily liquid, one 5-gal bucket ColorAid wetting agent
O.P.-175	One 5-gal. bucket foundation coating, two 2 1/2-gal bucket KilSludg #VM-540, two 2 1/2-gal buckets of oily liquid
O.P.-176	One 5-pail paint, one 1-gal can Urethan adhering vinyl #2854, one 4-gal can ParaBond M-417 adhesive, one 1-gal can polyester product contains styrene, vinyl toluene, floor sweeping with paint and fiberglass resin
O.P.-177	Thermoplastic material (ground pellets)
O.P.-178	Thermoplastic material (ground pellets)
O.P.-179	Thermoplastic material (ground pellets)
O.P.-180	Thermoplastic material (ground pellets)